

## Volunteers needed for Day to Care

2nd Lt. Jennifer Moore  
Public affairs

For the first time, Columbus AFB gears up to partner with United Way of Lowndes County to celebrate its annual “Day to Care” event Sept. 11.

Base volunteers will have the opportunity to spend the morning in downtown Columbus participating in community projects that support local nonprofit agencies.

“Day to Care volunteers provide meaningful assistance to United Way agencies like Red Cross, Helping Hands, Boys and Girls Club, 4-H, Recovery House and others,” said Lori Kesler, Lowndes County United Way executive director. “This is a landmark year — we’re incredibly thrilled to have the base and the city of Columbus on board this year.”

One project the planning committee hopes to offer base volunteers involves landscaping work surrounding the new T-37 static display downtown, Ms. Kesler said.

In addition to the landscaping project, base volunteers are needed to paint indoors at the Girl Scouts building, kill weeds at the Boy Scouts parking lot, ride Dial-A-Bus and deliver meals to elderly citizens.

Two volunteers are needed to replace a window frame for the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program.

Additional projects cover a broad spectrum of tasks ensuring there’s something for every type of volunteer, she said.

In addition to tackling helpful projects, Day to Care also shows United Way contributors the link between their donations and the needs of the community, Ms. Kesler said.

All projects begin at 7:30 a.m. and the half-day event culminates in a free volunteer appreciation lunch at the Trotter Convention Center in downtown Columbus.

“This is a great opportunity to participate in a positive community event on a day that’s incredibly significant to our nation,” said Col. Steve Schmidt, 14th Flying Training Wing commander. “I’ll be there, and I encourage every available BLAZE warrior and spouse to sign up to carry that caring flame of patriotism back into our community.”

To sign up or for more information, call 2nd Lt. Jennifer Moore at Ext. 7073.



Airman Boto Best  
**Austin Smith, 1, and Mekhi Domino, 10 months, eat breakfast at the child development center. The center is expanding to accommodate more children full-time and part-time.**

## CDC opens doors to more children

Airman Boto Best  
Public Affairs

The child development center is putting up a new addition to make room for more children.

The modular expansion is expected to be completed by Sept. 30 depending on rain delays, said Jayne Abshire, Family Member Programs flight chief.

“An on-base survey showed that in addition to our waiting list of about 30 people, there were at least another 20 to 30 children whose parents were interested in care,” Ms. Abshire said.

The expansion increases the number of spaces available from 62 to 121.

“It will allow so many parents the chance to have convenient care,” said Martha Mann, CDC director and family childcare coordinator. “We’re so excited.”

The center is open from 6:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and offers a choice of several programs. Parents may now begin to sign up for full-time and part-time spaces, which are being assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. Full-time care is up to 10 hours a day, and part-day care is four hours in either the morning or afternoon. There is also a pre-school program for 3- to 5-year olds from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. offered two, three or five times weekly.

The center also offers a Flex-care program for parents who can use a

few hours of care on short notice. Flex-care and hourly care are available for \$3 an hour. Parents may also share spaces with other families.

“I am very excited to see the CDC expanding and allowing more base children to take advantage of the quality care that they offer,” said Capt. Tammy Davidson, who has two children enrolled at the CDC. “Many of my friends are stay-at-home moms who have not had the drop-in care they sometimes need in order to accomplish errands or even attend simple things like doctors’ appointments,” Captain Davidson said.

See CDC, Page 3

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Confirmation classes

The chapel has confirmation classes for people 14 years and older, including active-duty personnel. The first meeting is at 6:30 p.m. Saturday in the chapel conference room. The sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated in Spring 2004.

For more information or to register, call Ext. 2500.

### Franklin Academy

An open house for Franklin Academy is Thursday. The dinner begins at 5:30 p.m. in the cafeteria, and the meeting begins at 6:30 p.m. in the auditorium. The dinner menu includes barbecue, potato salad, beans and beverages. Cost is \$5 per adult and \$3 per child. Money is due by Monday. Check or cash is accepted. For more information, call 434-0310 or 327-5177.

### Women’s Equality Day

A Women’s Day Symposium is at 5 p.m. Tuesday at the Columbus Club. The event features Col. Maggie Woodward, 12th Operations Group commander at Randolph AFB, Texas. Cost is \$9.50 for members and \$11.50 for nonmembers. Cost covers Pacific-buffet dinner. For more information, call Ext. 7073. See Page 5 for a story related to Women’s Equality Day.



Kevin Sisson

### One more stripe

The 14th Flying Training Wing congratulates the August enlisted promotees. Pictured are (from left to right, back first): to staff sergeant, Jeffrey Risley, 14th Communications Squadron; Jo Ann Bomar, 14th Security Forces Squadron; Billy White, 14th Mission Support Group; to technical sergeant, Jeffery Rast, 14th SFS; to master sergeant, Curtis Chiles, 14th Medical Operations Squadron; to airman first class, Eric Gillespie, 14th Civil Engineer Squadron; to senior airman, Jonathan Class, 14th CS; and to staff sergeant, David Anderson, 14th CES. Not pictured are:

**To master sergeant:**

**Bradley Sprague**, 332nd Recruiting Squadron

**To staff sergeant:**

**Heath Hinton and Kenneth Jinks**, 332nd RCS

**To senior airman:**

**Dustin Blewett and Michael Cook**, 14th CES; and **Jesse**

**Garrido**, 14th Operations Support Squadron

**To airman first class:**

**John Rushworth**, 14th OSS; and **Nakesha Tucker**, 14th MSG

## International student spotlight

**From:** Suibara, Japan

authentic sushi. I miss my family and friends. I also miss skiing.”

**What aircraft will you fly:**  
F-15

**What do you like about Columbus?:** “The United States is a huge country. Columbus has a lot of greenery and swamps.”

**What do you miss about home?:** “I miss Japanese food,



F-15



Masashi Shimbo  
Japanese Air Force

### ‘101 Critical Days’ tip

In the event of a tornado, seek shelter immediately. According to the National Weather Service, if you are at home, the safest place to be is in a basement under something sturdy. If there’s no basement, seek shelter in a small interior room in the middle of the building, like a closet or bathroom. Always stay away from outside walls and windows.

“Give the Gift of Life” at the Aug. 29 blood drive.  
For more information, call Sharon Nichols Ext. 2197



# Officials release new fitness test details

**Staff Sgt. C. Todd Lopez**  
Air Force Print News

**WASHINGTON** — Beginning next year, Air Force officials will implement a new fitness test completely different than what airmen today are familiar with.

The more functional test will include a 1.5-mile timed run, a muscular-fitness test of push-ups and crunches and a body composition test.

It is designed to measure the general health of airmen, said Maj. Lisa Schmidt, chief of health promotions operations at the Air Force surgeon general’s office.

“The goal is to have a healthy, fit force that can deploy at any time,” Major Schmidt said. “Our goal is to prevent the onset of diseases such as heart attacks, stroke, high-blood pressure and high cholesterol. Basically, it is about keeping members healthy so they will perform optimally, in-garrison and deployed. Healthy members are more heat-, stress- and fatigue-tolerant, and less prone to illness and injury.”

To measure airmen’s overall fitness, Major Schmidt’s office and a panel of health and fitness experts developed a three-component measurement system that looks at aerobic fitness, body composition and muscular fitness, she said.

An airman’s performance in each of the three component areas will earn points.

They can earn a maximum of 50 points on the aerobic portion of the test, 30 points on the body composition portion and 20 on the muscular fitness portion.

The total number of points earned on the fitness test will put the airman into one of four categories: 90 or greater is excellent, 75 to 89.9 is good, 70 to 74.9 is marginal, and less than 70 is poor, Schmidt said.

“Scores based on health provide an opportunity for earlier intervention,” Major Schmidt said. “If somebody scores in the marginal or poor category, we know they are at higher risk for disease. Therefore, we intervene with education and more frequent testing to monitor their progress.”

People scoring marginal on the test will attend a two-hour healthy-living workshop that focuses on lifestyle behavior, time management and fitness education, Major Schmidt said.

Intervention for people scoring in the poor category involves the healthy-living workshop, an individualized exercise program and a weight-loss program for those who exceed body fat standards. It also involves mandatory exercise five days a week, she said.

## CDC (Continued from Page 1)

“Opening the new building will mean that parents will not be forced to take their children downtown for full-time or part-time care, or have to bring their young ones to the one to two hours of waiting at most doctors’ offices,” Captain Davidson said.

The management expects business to continue as usual during the move, Ms. Mann said.

The CDC is the only childcare facility

in the Columbus and Starkville commuting area whose standards are officially recognized and approved by the National Association for the Education of Young Children. The center receives annual unannounced inspections from the Safety Office, Military Public Health, Fire Department, a local base-level team that includes parents using the program, and the headquarters of the Air Force Services Agency.

The center has a literacy program where parents can come in and read to the children, tell stories and participate in hands-on activities.

Parent Advisory Board meetings are also held regularly.

“I trust the daycare here because of their terrific staff, extensive child development training modules, meticulous records of my child’s day and records of their overall progress throughout the time

that they are enrolled in the program,” said Captain Davidson.

The center is open to parents who are active-duty, Department of Defense civilians, contractors and anyone actively employed on base.

There are no registration fees. Fees are based on family income and include meals, formulas and baby food.

For more information, call the CDC at Ext. 2479.



Master Sgt. Jim Varhegyi

**Trainees at the U.S. Air Force Honor Guard technical school at Bolling AFB, Md., participate in a physical-fitness routine several times a week preparing them for the new Air Force fitness test.**

The test for body composition is still being finalized, but it will measure how much body fat a person has, Major Schmidt said.

Tests for other components of the fitness standard have already been determined.

A 1.5-mile run will determine aerobic fitness. Airmen who are not medically cleared to run will take the cycle-ergometry test. Muscular fitness will be determined by both push-ups and crunches, which will be similar to those done in conjunction with the cycle-ergometry test.

Airmen’s scores on the new fitness test will also determine how often they need to retest. People scoring “good” or “excellent” will retest after a year, while those scoring “marginal” will retest after six-months. Airmen scoring “poor” will retest after 90 days.

Just how many push-ups and crunches airmen will have to do, or how fast they will have to run, has yet to

be finalized. Major Schmidt’s office has developed draft charts for the composite score.

The fitness standards on the draft charts are tailored to both age and gender.

While the charts are not available yet, airmen who are not already involved in some sort of exercise program should begin now, Major Schmidt said.

“If you are not doing anything now and have concerns, see your doctor first,” she said. “Begin slowly with an aerobic-exercise program such as running, jogging, swimming or biking, working up to at least 30 minutes on most days of the week. Muscular fitness and flexibility also need to be part of a balanced fitness program. If you have questions about starting a fitness program, you can contact your local [health and wellness center]. They can help develop a program that’s right for you.”

# Everyday heroes deserve recognition from others

**Lt. Col. Laro Clark**  
50th Flying Training Squadron



“Congratulations, you’re the new squadron commander of the 50th Flying Training Squadron ‘Striking Snakes.’ It’s going to be the most challenging thing you’ve ever done and also the most rewarding — you’re going to love it. And oh, by the way, you have an article due to the Silver Wings in a couple of weeks.”

Chilling words for the first day on the job. After several false starts on topics such as leadership and courage, I was still far from what I felt was a good article. So, I just decided to write from the heart.

In a previous assignment, I was fortunate to serve as the F-15 East Coast Aerial Demonstration Team commander and demonstration pilot.

For more than two years I traveled across the United States, performing a high performance, low altitude aerobatic routine complete with roaring afterburners,

vapor trails and lots of Gs. Even more fun than that though, I was afforded the opportunity to meet and talk with an incredible cross-section of Americans. From Florida to Washington, I talked with farmers and racecar drivers, computer wizards and athletes, city councilmen and schoolteachers. As I chatted with them all, a common thread began to appear.

From one show performed in Iowa for 1,500 people standing in a cornfield to Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., where 800,000 spectators made five miles of white beach disappear, one particular comment was voiced over and over.

In dozens of dialects across this nation I heard, “Thank you for what you military guys do to keep our country safe. We are so, so proud of you. God bless you.”

It took several weeks for it to sink in. Where were the protestors I kept reading about in the papers? Where were the anti-military sentiments I was warned about? Where were the troublemakers? I just wasn’t finding them.

What I did find was 99 percent of the public out there was appreciative, trusting and proud of us. Now they might not know exactly what part of Iraq we were

patrolling or even where Bosnia was but that didn’t seem to matter.

They simply couldn’t say enough about how much our service meant to them. It’s that perception I want to write about. Servicemembers, America appreciates you, trusts you and is so proud of you.

Why appreciate us? Because we provide the security to sleep well at night for over 250 million people. From the active-duty security forces personnel to the Air Force Reserve F-16 pilot, our armed forces always respond when called. Does the United States need such a force? You bet it does. Until the horrible events of Sept. 11, 2001, there had not been a large attack on United States soil since Pearl Harbor more than 60 years ago.

Events in the world in the last year show the armed forces again meeting the task of making the United States safe from attack. Often times it seems a thankless job with poor working conditions and low monetary compensation. Believe me when I say the sacrifices you make and how well you do your job are appreciated - more than you can imagine.

See HEROES, Page 5

## STRAIGHT TALK LINE

*The Straight Talk Line is your direct line to the commander for comments and suggestions on how to make Columbus AFB better. Although the Straight Talk Line is always available, the best way to resolve problems is through the chain of command.*

*The Straight Talk Line phone number is 434-7058. Callers should leave their full name and phone number to receive an answer. All names are kept confidential. Messages are answered in the Silver Wings without names. Written questions may also be brought to the public affairs office in the wing headquarters building, Bldg. 724. People can also access the Straight Talk program through the Blazeweb at <https://columbusweb> and the main website at [www.columbus.af.mil](http://www.columbus.af.mil).*

*Questions and answers will be edited for brevity.*

**Question:** On Page 24 of CAFB Pamphlet 32-6002, Family Housing Brochure, dated 8 July 02, the curfew rules are listed. However, I am concerned because these rules are somewhat vague, can be left up to interpretation, and may not have been entirely thought through. For instance, the brochure indicates when children should be inside, but not when they can go back out. A 16 year old must be in by midnight, but can they go back out at 2 a.m.? The end times should be determined or enforcement could be difficult. Additionally, the guidelines in the brochure indicate that

the “...times may be extended for special events or if returning from an activity with an adult or sponsor over 21 years of age.” Why wouldn’t a sponsor under 21 years of age be able to accompany a minor on base after curfew hours? I can envision an 18-year-old airman going for a late night walk in a neighborhood with his visiting underage sibling. Under the rules, this would be prohibited. Thank you for providing this forum for discussion.

**Answer:** During the next review of our Housing Pamphlet, we will provide a wing-coordinated policy providing

clearer curfew rules. The guidance will include curfew termination of 5 a.m. for all age groups. There will also be better guidance concerning minors escorted out past curfew, allowing them to be out past curfew with a family member 18 or older. Non-family members must be 21 or older to escort a minor past curfew. We want to ensure all our people, especially our children, remain safe at all times. Thank you for bringing these issues to my attention and for using the Commander’s Hotline.

Col. Steve Schmidt  
14th Flying Training Wing commander

## SILVER WINGS

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434-7069, or e-mailed to [silverwings@columbus.af.mil](mailto:silverwings@columbus.af.mil) by 2 p.m. Friday. The Silver Wings staff reserves the right to edit or rewrite all copy submitted when necessary.

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## Key phone numbers

Base Exchange.....	434-6013
Chaplain.....	434-2500
Civil Engineer Service Desk.....	434-2856
Civilian Personnel.....	434-2635
Clinic:	
Family Practice.....	434-2172
Appointment Desk.....	434-2273
After Hours Care.....	434-2273
Columbus Club.....	434-2489
Commissary.....	434-7106
Finance.....	434-2706
Housing Maintenance.....	434-7370
Inspector General.....	434-2927
Legal Office.....	434-7030
Military Equal Opportunity.....	434-2546
Security Forces.....	434-7129
Shoppette.....	434-6026



# Services brings fun, entertainment to CAFB



Athena Brimer

## Temporary Lodging gets face lift

**Shonda Spencer, custodial worker, cleans a kitchen at one of the new temporary lodging facilities on Atlanta Street. These are three-bedroom units consisting of 1,300 square feet. These houses are primarily for incoming and outgoing families. For more information, call Freddie King at Ext. 2373.**

**All ranks bingo:** Games begin at 6 p.m. Fridays in the community center ballroom. Play five \$75 regular games, one \$125 odd and even coverall game and a \$1,000 progressive jackpot game. Consolation prize is \$150 if the jackpot does not go.

Admission fees for nonmembers are \$5. Payout is based on a minimum number of players. Call Ext. 2489.

**Sunday brunch:** The Columbus Club offers this special brunch from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Aug. 24. Cost is \$10.95 with club members receiving a \$2 discount.

Call Ext. 2489.

**“Happy” burger:** Stop by the Columbus Club Monday through Friday between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. and take advantage of a lunch deal on the base.

Order a Happy Burger, fries and a drink and pay only \$3.95 for members. Nonmembers pay \$5.95. If you are not a burger person, try one of the other great deals on our a la carte menu. Take out orders also available. Call Ext. 2489.

**Crafts classes:** The skills development center offers crafts classes for adult and youth. The adult classes include a mosaic covered box Tuesday.

The youth classes include making a spoon snakes Wednesday.

Register at least four days in advance to ensure all supplies are available. Call Ext. 7836.

**Quick shot bingo:** The bowling center now offers quick shot bingo anytime the bowling center is open. Cash prizes. Cards are \$1 each.

**Photography and artists craftsman contests:** The skills development center annual photography contest is Oct. 10, and the artist craftsman’s contest is Oct. 17.

Stop by the center for guidelines and requirements. Call Ext. 7836.

**Horsemanship lessons:** These lessons are now offered on the base for riders of all ages and abilities.

Flying M EZ Riders offer opportunities for the beginner or advanced rider.

Flying M EZ Riders will provide you with a lesson horse and materials.

Cost ranges from \$8.50 to \$17 per person for 30-minute sessions. For more information, call Nikki McBlair at 434-6627.

**Auto Skills Center new hours:** The Auto Skills Center has increased their hours by popular demand.

The new hours are from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Fridays, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays and closed Sundays and Mondays. Call Ext. 7842.

**Preschool story time:** The library is looking for volunteers to read for preschool story time starting in September. Call Ext. 2934.

**Frame shop classes available:** The Skills Development Center offers frame shop classes.

Day and night classes available. For more information on times and dates, call Ext. 7836.

**Make a difference:** Call the youth center at Ext. 2504 for information on the YES, Youth Employment Skills, program, the Congressional Awards program and how to become a regular volunteer.

**Youth instructional classes:** The Youth Center offers the following instructional classes: karate, voice lessons, tumbling tots, guitar lessons, tennis lessons, and sign language. For more information, call Ext. 2504.

**Instructors needed:** Instructors are needed at the Youth Center for gymnastics, Kindermusik and computers. To apply or for more information, call Ext. 2504.

**Birthday parties:** The Strike Zone Lanes offers three different birthday party packages rangin in price from \$3.50 to \$4.75 per person.

Stop by the bowling center to pick up a brochure on what is offered with each package. Call Ext. 2426.

*Sign up to be a club member and enter to win great prizes!*

*Travel the World on Us*



*Program runs until Oct. 31  
Current club members automatically entered.  
For more information, call Ext. 2489.*

**Check out the services website at  
[www.cafbgrapevine.com](http://www.cafbgrapevine.com)**

**Comedy night:** James Logan presents Comedy Night at the Princess Theatre Aug. 23. Showtime is from 9 p.m. until 11 p.m.

Admission is \$4 per person. For more information, call 327-6789.

**Columbus tour:** The Columbus Historic Foundation sponsors a historic bus tour of Columbus Saturday and again Sept. 6.

All tours leave at 9 a.m. from the Tennessee Williams Welcome Center at 300 Main Street.

The tour includes homes, churches, cemeteries and historic roadways in the three districts of Columbus on the National Register of Historic Places.

Cost is \$10 per person, which includes lunch at the Backdoor Restaurant. Souvenir tickets are available at

the Tennessee Williams Welcome Center. For more information, call 329-5300 or (800) 920-3533.

**MUW lunch and learn:** The Mississippi University for Women Culinary Arts Institute lunch and learn series begins in September and lasts through May.

Each year the series focuses on a different aspect of culinary arts.

The cost is \$18 per person. Due to limited space, participation in this event can only be guaranteed with payment.

For more information, contact the Culinary Arts Institute at 241-7472.

**Tennessee Williams’ Weekend:** The second annual Tennessee Williams’ Weekend is Sept. 12 and Sept. 13.

The weekend is a tribute and tour of victorian homes honoring one of America’s playwrights.

His first home serves as the official Mississippi Welcome Center for Columbus and the Golden Triangle Area.

The weekend features many events ranging from luncheons to film festivals.

For a free brochure, call (800) 327-2686.

**Charity sale:** McRae’s Charity Sale is Sept. 13. The tickets for the special sale are \$5 each and available at the Columbus Arts Council on Main Street in downtown Columbus.

The proceeds from the tickets will go to the Columbus Arts Council and the Rosenzweig Arts Center. For more information, call 328-2787.

## BARGAIN LINE

### Bargain Line advertisement

*The Bargain Line is free for all military members (including guard and reserve members), DOD civilians, military retirees, family members and contract employees.*

*Bargain Line advertisements must be turned in to the Silver Wings office in the 14th Flying Training Wing headquarters building by noon Monday to be included in the following week's issue. Late ads will be held over for the next issue.*

*Reruns must be phoned in to the Silver Wings office, 434-7068, by noon Monday for inclusion in the next week's issue. Please do not re-submit ads for rerun on this form. Advertisements should contain a home phone number, home address or both. Duty phone numbers will not appear in the ads.*

*Advertisements for private businesses or services providing a continuous source of income, such as baby-sitting or rental property, may not appear in the Bargain Line. They may, however, be purchased through the Silver Wings publisher, 328-2424. Please fill out this form completely. The Silver Wings staff reserves the right to edit ads as necessary.*

**Type of advertisement (circle one):** Home Transportation Miscellaneous Yard sales Pets

Print advertisement: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Duty Telephone #: \_\_\_\_\_  
(in case we need more information)

**Please let us know what you think of the Silver Wings:**

Are you happy with the Silver Wings? Yes ☐ No ☐

What would you like to see more of in the newspaper? News ☐ Sports ☐ Photos ☐

If you would like to give any other suggestions, please e-mail us at [silverwings@columbus.af.mil](mailto:silverwings@columbus.af.mil).



# Biologist’s approach to air traffic control aims to prevent fowl-ups



He conducts a dusk survey on the flightline. Recorded species numbers and behavior patterns will become part of a comprehensive report.

**2nd Lt. Jennifer Moore**  
Public affairs

While most people notice Jayhawks, Talons and Tweets as the prevalent flyers above Columbus AFB, one United States Department of Agriculture wildlife biologist is scouring the skies for different types of wings.

Kyle Van Why is conducting a 14-month wildlife hazard assessment focusing on bird species that inhabit or temporarily populate the base during their migration.

His research will be used primarily to improve collection and identification processes associated with bird strikes — one of the Air Force’s key flight safety concerns.

“By identifying the types of birds located here and their habit patterns, my work will help the safety office standardize bird strike collection procedures, and understand strike patterns,” Mr. Van Why said.

Data resulting from surveys initiated throughout the year will be used to augment existing bird/wildlife aircraft strike hazard procedures employed on base.

BASH is the Air Force agency responsible for developing research programs to reduce bird strike potential around airfields and during

low-level flight operations.

Under BASH guidelines, whenever a bird strike occurs, feathers and or remains are collected and sent to the Smithsonian Institute National Museum of Natural History where scientists identify and catalog the various species.

Details are then entered into a national database, so biologists can identify patterns and potential solutions.

According to the wing safety office, bird strikes this year at Columbus AFB total:

- ❑ 37 hit by T-38s
- ❑ 28 hit by T-37s
- ❑ 58 hit by T-1s.

Most of the strikes involve birds such as swallows, killdeer and meadowlarks.

“Overall, T-37 strike numbers have remained fairly consistent, but T-38 and T-1 strikes have spiked over the past few years and are more expensive to fix,” said Maj. Kyle Grunden, 14th Flying Training flight safety chief. “Columbus will benefit from Mr. Van Why’s expertise and recommendations; similar programs have been very successful in reducing strike numbers at other bases.”

One key problem associated with

strike reporting is the fact that birds often fall into the “unknown” category for one of two reasons — either there are no remains to recover, or they get misplaced in the process, Mr. Van Why said.

“It’s just like hitting a bug with your car, sometimes it leaves a splotch, other times there’s a wing,” he said. “Usually we’re looking at a blood smear with a few feathers.”

Maj. Brad Robinson, BASH program manager, knows from personal experience how better reporting procedures will cut down on the number of “unknown” designations.

“I hit a bird in a T-37 last year over the ramp and it fell in two pieces near another aircraft being refueled,” Major Robinson said. “I saw both pieces of the bird [some type of hawk] after I landed, but the database has no identification because the bird never made it up to safety to send off.”

Though less prevalent, deer strikes are also a problem on base, noted Mr. Van Why. “Imagine a 100 pound piece of [foreign object debris] getting hit at a speed of 200 [mph], you’re definitely talking about a safety problem,” he said.

Major Grunden counted one deer strike every year since he arrived at Columbus AFB.

“They’ve all been T-38 strikes, typically at dusk, and they usually hit the landing gear,” he said. “Birds usually cause more damage.”

In addition to conducting surveys, Mr. Van Why will also engage in harassment activities, which he defines as, “actively chasing one or more birds or wildlife off of a runway or away from a flight pattern.”

Harassment techniques target birds that have become habituated to their surroundings.

“Say you have six egrets on the flightline and maybe five get scared away by the noise, there’s still that one who doesn’t mind planes whizzing by his head,” Mr. Van Why said. “It’s my job to move him.”

Throughout the year, Mr. Van Why’s activities will also include assisting 14th Civil Engineering Squadron with various projects and serving as a subject matter expert on wildlife issues such as pest control, hunting and animal diseases.

“The majority of wildlife management is actually people management,” he said. “Just recognizing wildlife activity and controlling human variables can make a big difference.”



Kyle Van Why, United States Department of Agriculture wildlife biologist, inspects a cliff swallow found near the flightline.



White egrets gather near the driving range on Perimeter Road where flooding occurred after recent storms.



Mr. Van Why examines a kildeer, a common bird strike victim at Columbus AFB.



# Top female sergeant reflects on women’s movement

**Senior Master Sgt. Renee McCollum**  
43rd Flying Training Squadron



In celebrating Women’s Equality Day what comes to my mind is our society has undergone a massive change. Women are now found in large numbers in professional schools, professions such as female-owned businesses and military academies, which was unthinkable before the women’s movement. To whom do I credit this success? Women who have been influential leaders; who promoted a culture of active citizenship and formed formal and informal networks of support and information sharing to meet the goal of equal rights for all citizens regardless of sex. I am proud to be part of the network that continues

this progress. The 19th Amendment to the Constitution granting women the right to vote is our symbol of the continued fight for equal rights. As a woman in the military since the 1980s, I’ve seen a large increase in women in the service attaining senior NCO rank, being placed in leadership positions, and the variety of job assignments we are given has increased substantially. I take pride in my role today of being a supervisor and mentor to all airmen, but I also embrace my commitment to providing young military and civilian women with the example that we can achieve anything we choose in life and still balance family and career, and we must do this with the drive and determination of commitment to our mission and maintaining the professional military image. The changes we’ve seen in the past 37 years are breathtaking; especially when we look beyond the United States to the rest of the world where women are deprived of basic human rights.

We’ve achieved a lot but much remains to be done, and we will face new problems. We have two women who are chairing congressional campaign committees — Patty Murray of Washington is heading the Democratic Senate Campaign Committee, and Nita Loewy of New York is heading the Democratic House of Representatives Campaign Committee. Our achievements in the military span from serving on the elite guard detail at the Tomb of the Unknowns at Arlington National Cemetery, Va. — to a female fighter pilot being selected for test pilot school and a space shuttle commander. These achievements reflect what women are accomplishing in the 20th century. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was fond of quoting an anonymous African-American woman: “We ain’t what we ought to be, we ain’t what we wanna be, we ain’t what we gonna be, But thank God, we ain’t what we was.” I look forward to participating in the symposium Tuesday for Women’s Equality Day.

## HEROES (Continued from Page 4)

Why trust us? Because we’ve earned their trust. At times when no one else is looking, we have the courage to make the right decision. We take million dollar pieces of combat equipment and train for months or years to use them effectively. Employment is then precise yet judicious. While the public may not always agree with political leadership, the public trusts the military men and women — because we’ve earned their trust through decades of doing the right

thing both in and out of uniform. Thirty years ago, at the end of the Vietnam War, this was not the case when soldiers returned to angry crowds and an ungrateful public. Never forget how hard won today’s trust is. Each of us plays a part in that trust — we re-earn it every day. Why be proud of us? Because we’ve voluntarily chosen to hold ourselves to a higher standard of conduct. What’s good enough in the civilian world is not good

enough in the military. Along with firefighting and law enforcement, the profession of peace is an honorable profession respected throughout history. Every day headlines shout the troubles of professional athletes, elected politicians and wealthy businessmen. America can always use honorable heroes, and you fit the bill. So as you finish the rest of this paper, hold your head just a bit higher —

you’re a cut above the rest. But with that bit of new pride, recognize the tremendous responsibility placed on you. Your responsibilities as a servicemember extend 24-hours-a-day, seven-days-a-week both in and out of uniform. The future and safety of a nation are riding on your shoulders. Finally, always remember — America is appreciative of your sacrifice, trusting of your judgment and proud of your profession. And so am I.

## AT THE CHAPEL

**Chapel schedule**  
**Catholic**  
**Sunday activities:**  
9:15 a.m. — Mass  
10:30 a.m. — CCD  
5 p.m. — Confessions  
5:30 p.m. — Mass  
**Wednesday**  
11:30 a.m. — Mass

**Protestant**  
**Sunday activities:**  
9 a.m. — Sunday school  
10:45 a.m. — Traditional worship  
1 p.m. — Contemporary worship

For Islamic, Jewish, Orthodox or other services, call the chapel at Ext. 2500.

## AT THE MOVIES

All movies are shown at 7 p.m., unless otherwise noted, at the theater.

**Today**  
“*League of Extraordinary Gentlemen*” (PG-13, intense sequences of fantasy violence, language and innuendo, 110 min.)  
Starring: Sean Connery and Peta Wilson.

**Saturday**  
“*Johnny English*” (PG, comic nudity, some crude humor and language, 88 min.)  
Starring: Rowan Atkinson and Natalie Imbruglia.

## CHANNEL 64

BLAZE 64 offers announcements for people living in base housing or the dormitories. Call 1st Lt. Richard Blakewood for more information at Ext. 7065.

**Weekdays**  
**9 a.m., noon and 2 p.m.**  
*Air Force Television News*  
**Monday through Aug. 29**  
**9:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m.**  
*College Level Examination Program Tapes:*  
English Composition

## FAMILY SUPPORT



**Remote/deployed briefing:** Military people who are going remote or being deployed must attend a mandatory briefing offered at 9 a.m. Thursdays. For more information, call Ext. 2790.

**PCS information:** PCS moving guides, SITES books and automaps that are helpful when relocating are available at the center. For more information, call Ext. 2790.

**Resume workshop:** A resume workshop is from 9 to 11 a.m. Tuesday at the family support center. The workshop helps people learn the do’s and don’ts of preparing a resume. To register or for more information, call Ext. 2839.

**Training seminars:** Two self-improvement seminars are scheduled for Wednesday at the family support center. Personal values seminar for ages 17 to 23 is from 10 to 11 a.m. Supervisor interpersonal communications seminar is from 2 to 4 p.m. Registration is required, and the deadline is Tuesday. For more information or to register, call Ext. 2631.

**Communication seminar:** A communication seminar is from 2 to 4 p.m. Wednesday. A guest speaker from choice behavioral presents skills to help people to identify communication skill levels and teach skills to increase communication at home and work. Registration is required, and the deadline to sign up is Tuesday. For more information, call Ext. 2631.

## BASE NOTES



**Clinic closure:** The clinic closes at 12:30 p.m. Thursdays for training. Flight medicine and dental sick call is at 7:30 and 11 a.m. Thursdays.

**Thrift shop:** The thrift shop is now



Airman Boto Best

## Roofing

**Tom Costa and Chris Carson, Campbell Roofing contracting, install trim for wall panels at the 14th Operations Group building.**

open from 4 to 8 p.m. Tuesdays and from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursdays in Bldg. 345 beside the youth center. Consignments are taken until one hour before closing. Volunteers are needed. For more information, call 434-2954.

**Boy scouts:** The Columbus AFB Boy Scouts Troop 52 starts the fall season with an open house at 6 p.m. Monday. The scouts will take a trip to Columbus Troop 1. The troop meets at 5 p.m. Aug. 30 for a trip to Starkville to attend the Mississippi State University game against Oregon. Boys from ages 11 to 17 interested in joining can call Ext. 2504.

**OSC social:** The Columbus Officers’ Spouses’ club holds its next social at 6:30 p.m. Sept. 9 at the Columbus Club. The program is a fashion show, and the menu is roasted strip beef with garlic mashed potatoes. Cost is \$11.50 per person and members get a \$2 discount. For reservations or more information, call 434-8723 or email [airtex60@yahoo.com](mailto:airtex60@yahoo.com) by noon Sept. 2.

**Resale lot:** The auto skills center pre-owned vehicle resale lot is at the corner

of 7th Street and C Street. Vehicles placed in this lot must be registered with auto skills. An administrative fee of \$5 per month is charged per vehicle. For more information, call Ext. 7842.

**Fitness assessment:** Fitness examinations as part of a physical health assessments at the health and wellness center are available on a walk-in basis from 7 to 8 a.m. Retests are available from 8 to 9 a.m. Appointments are at other times during normal duty hours from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mondays through Fridays. The center is closed holidays and official down days.

For more information or to schedule an appointment for shift workers, please call Ext. 2477.

**Base decals:** Columbus AFB decals have arrived at 14th Security Forces Squadron Pass and Registration. Anyone needing a decal can come by the pass and registration in Room 106 of Building 926 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Everyone is reminded to bring their state registration and current proof of insurance. For more information, call Ext. 7133.



# LSI captures intramural golf championship

**Airman Boto Best**  
Public affairs

Lear Siegler Inc. won the 14th Flying Training Wing intramural golf championship for the first time Tuesday against Services Team 1 at the Whispering Pines golf course.

The new 14th Mission Support Group commander, Col. Keith Keck, presented the team with a trophy after the match with Services Team 1.

“Services is a good team and we’re a good team, and on any given day, either one of us could have won,” said Mike Evers, LSI team. “It’s just that the ball bounced our way this time.”

“The Whispering Pines Golf course is one of the finest nine-hole courses in the Southeast,” said Andy Gilley, golf player. “It’s a short, but challenging golf course with narrow fairways and small greens.

“Whispering Pines is well-manicured and is excellent for beginning golfers who would like to learn the game. Everyone who plays here really enjoys it.

“Golf teaches you patience, and if you’re walking, endurance,” Mr. Gilley said. “People don’t realize that in golf, you exercise a lot of muscles. If you walk this golf course, by the time you’re through playing you will have walked four miles.”

Mr. Gilley also said, “Golf is a ‘gentlemen’s sport.’ There are 31 rules of etiquette to the game. It’s the only game where the players call their own fouls. It’s a sport where you can be competitive but still enjoy playing



Airman Boto Best

**Jerry Hudson, Lear Siegler Inc. team, putts during the golf championship Tuesday.**

with your competitor. Golf is not just for older people, but for all ages.”

Airman Michael Peecook, who plays on the Civil

Engineering team at age 19, said golf is one of his favorite sports. “I like the competition - there’s nothing like beating men who have 20 years on you.”

## SHORTS

### Fall bowling leagues

Registration for the fall bowling leagues begins today. Leagues available are: the Tuesday night mixed, Wednesday night couples, Thursday night intramurals, Monday night and Tuesday morning ladies.

The Tuesday night league conducts its

organizational meeting at 6 p.m. Aug. 19 at the bowling center. For more information, call Ext. 2426.

### Golf championship

The Annual Whispering Pines Championship for men and women is Aug. 30 to Sept. 2 at the golf course. A

men’s and women’s scratch and handicap champions are recognized. Register before Aug. 25 at the golf shop.

Entry fee is \$30 per person. For more information, call Ext. 7932.

### Kindergym child care

People with children and a workout partner can come to the fitness and sports center from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

Workout partners take turns watching the children in a specially designated area. Call Ext. 2773.

### Karate

Tae Kwon Do classes for ages 5 and older are from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays in the youth center. Cost is \$40 per month. For more information, call Ext. 2504.

### Fitness 101

People who want to get in shape but aren’t sure how to use all the fitness and sports center’s machines can schedule a Fitness 101 class.

The center shows the person how to find his or her target heart rate and to use all of the equipment. Classes are by appointment only. Call Ext. 2772.

### Personal trainers

Personal trainers are available at the fitness and sports center to spice up a workout routine or help a person get more out of their workout. Call Ext. 2773.

### Aerobics classes

Aerobics classes ranging from beginning step and kickboxing to spinning and yoga are offered every week at the fitness and sports center. There are 15 different classes every week. For information on class times, call the Ext. 2772 or stop by the center for a schedule

### Thursday scrambles

The Thursday afternoon scrambles at Whispering Pines Golf Course begin at 4:45 p.m. Sign up by 4 p.m. each Thursday. Computer selects the teams. Entry is \$5 per person plus green fees for nonmembers.

### Softball standings

The following are the intramural standings as of Wednesday.

Teams	Wins	Losses	Ties
DynCorp	15	1	0
50th FTS #1	6	1	0
14th CES #1	11	2	0
14th OSS #1	6	2	0
50th FTS #2	5	2	0
48th FTS	5	3	0
14th SFS	5	8	0
14th CS	4	8	0
37th/41st FTS	2	5	0
14th CES #2	3	10	0
14th MDG	3	11	0
14th OSS #2	1	8	0

